

#### Question #1

- What are the Strengths of the Current NELAC/NELAP?
- What are the Areas for Improvement?

#### Group #1

- What are the Strengths of the Current NELAC/NELAP?
  - Expertise
  - Mutual Recognition
  - Quality Systems Approach
  - Cooperative Effort (Fed/State/Private)
  - Known and Recognized

#### Group # 2

- What are the Strengths of the Current NELAC/NELAP?
  - National Standard Allowing Mutual Recognition
  - Quality System
  - Improvement in Lab Assessments

#### Group #3

- What are the Strengths of the Current NELAC/NELAP?
  - Improvement to State and Proficiency Testing Programs
  - Quality Systems
  - Improvement in Assessments
  - Improved Communications

#### Group #4

- What are the Strengths of the Current NELAC/NELAP?
  - National Standard
  - Single Quality System
  - Improvement to Data Quality
  - Networking
  - Standards Written with a Performance Approach

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#### Group #1

- What are the Areas for Improvement to NELAC/NELAP?
  - Uniformity of interpretation
  - Lack of buy-in by EPA programs
  - Inconsistent Fields of Testing/Multiple Applications for Accreditation
  - No Federal Regulatory Requirement
  - States with Two-tiered Program
  - No Incentive to non-NELAP States

#### Group #2

- What are the Areas for Improvement to NELAC/NELAP?
  - Not all EPA Offices are on board
  - Inconsistent Interpretation of Standard
  - Lack of a Database

#### Group #3

- What are the Areas for Improvement to NELAC/NELAP?
  - Limited Participation by Laboratories and States
  - Federal Programs Acceptance
  - Uniform Interpretation of Standards for Consistent Implementation
  - Multiple Primary AAs
  - Need for More Technical Specifics in the Standards

#### Group #4

- What are the Areas for Improvement to NELAC/NELAP?
  - Program not National
  - No Federal Mandate
  - Limited Participation
  - Cost
  - Separation of Standard Development and Implementation

#### Question #2

- What key services should the NEXT GENERATION provide?

#### Group #1

- Old "improved" NELAC
  - Develop and adopt standards
  - Accept standards from other Standard Development Organizations (SDOs)
- Provide full and equal stakeholder participation
- Provide mechanism for communication and to solicit feedback
- Easy access to technical and administrative training
- Ability to measure and document benefits
- Access to "How To" documents

#### Group #2

- Standards Adoption
- Manage Information Comprehensively
- Professional Management (not volunteers)

#### Group #3

- Standards Development
- Training
- Database and Website
- Outreach and Education

#### Group #4

- Training and Education
- Database
- Standards Development
- Administrative Support (professional)
- Self-governing with Oversight
- Advocacy for Performance Approach
- AA Oversight

### Question #3

- What characteristics should the NEXT GENERATION have to encourage more participation?

### Group #1

- Strong EPA Support
- Retain NELAC/NELAP Name
- Full and Equal Participation by All Stakeholders
- Meaningful NELAP Accreditation
- "True" Reciprocity

### Group #2

- Flexible, Expandable, Timely and Responsive
- Seek Legislation for all EPA Programs to have Data Quality Requirements
- Endorsed by all EPA Programs

### Group #3

- Legally Identifiable Entity
- Wide-spread Acceptance by All EPA Programs
- Consensus-based
- Pooling of Resources by Accrediting Authorities

### Group #4

- Public Relations Efforts to Legislators
- Streamline
  - Quality manual template
  - Define requirements plainly (for small laboratories)
- Audits for Data Integrity and Compliance
- Strategic Marketing with Specific Targets
- Field Measurements

### Question #4

- What is the membership in the NEXT GENERATION?



### Group #1

- Include all stakeholders
  - Engineering firms
  - Researchers
  - University safety officers
  - Industry
  - Trade associations
  - Proficiency test providers and oversight bodies
  - Voluntary monitoring groups (and concerned citizens)
  - Private assessors
  - Consultants
  - Other standard development groups
  - Attorneys
  - Legislators/Regulators (Federal, State, Municipal)

### Group #2

- All stateholders
  - Generators
  - Users
  - Regulators
  - Assessors

### Group #3

- All stakeholders
  - Individuals and/or organizations
  - Laboratories
  - Government people
  - Trade organizations
  - Data users
  - Academics
  - Tribal nations
  - Environmental organizations

### Group #4

- All stakeholders
  - Sampling firms
  - Environmental labs
  - State AAs
  - Non-government AAs
  - Any attendees
  - Individuals doing accreditations
  - Real estate
  - Feds

### Question #5

- Other "What" questions

### Group #1

- What authority will NELAP operate under?
- What are issues relating to reciprocity among the states?
- What are the issues of true non-participants?
- What are the barriers to participating states becoming full AAs

### Group #2

- What will the states accept for the NEXT GENERATION?
- What systems can be established to balance flexibility with strict proscribed standards?
- What does the NEXT GENERATION need to do if the current NELAC standard is copyrighted?
- Can we reconcile confictions between multiple programs?
- What can be done about timely responses to technology changes?

### Group #3

- What will be done to accommodate perceived needs?
  - For certifying field testers and samplers?
  - For individual analyst certification?
  - For standard for data validations?
  - For guidance on measurement quality objectives?
  - For developing standards to encompass all areas of environmental testing?
- What other organizations will we consider cooperative agreements with?
- What is NELAC's international accreditation role?

### Group #3

- What is NELAC's role for international accreditation?
- What are the standards for data validation?